9.4 9/11 DAY OF SERVICE AND REMEMBRANCE



The 9/11 attacks, a moment that through tragedy brought together cultures, bridged differences and united citizens of goodwill around the world in a spirit of unity and commitment. In tribute to all of those who were lost and the tens of thousands who rose in service, September 11 has been designated a National Day of Service and Remembrance.

Beginning in 2002, family members who lost loved ones in the September 11, 2001 terrorist attacks and support groups began to seek a forward-looking tribute to honor the sacrifice of those who were lost and pay tribute to those who rose in service in response to the tragedy.

By encouraging Americans to participate in service and remembrance activities on the 9/11 anniversary, family members wanted to provide a productive and respectful way to honor those who perished and rekindle the spirit of unity and compassion that swept our nation after 9/11 to help meet the challenges we face today.

Because of their efforts to build support for this idea, September 11 has been designated a National Day of Service and Remembrance. The September 11th National Day of Service and Remembrance was established into law by the Edward M. Kennedy Serve America Act in 2009, and is consistent with President Obama's overall call to service. United We Serve.

Paying Tribute

Each year, more than 1 million Americans are expected to serve in their communities in honor of 9/11. Service projects range from food drives and home repairs to neighborhood cleanups and disaster preparation activities. In many areas, volunteers honor veterans, soldiers, or first responders by collecting donations, assembling care packages, and writing thank you letters.

There are many ways of paying tribute to the victims and heroes of 9/11, and remembering the remarkable way that so many rose up in unity and service following the attacks. Here are some ways to get started:

- Search for opportunities on <u>Serve.gov</u>.
- Organize your own service project using one of our toolkits.
- Use the "#911day" and "#IWill" hashtags on Twitter.
- Share your story of service on the <u>Serve.gov Facebook wall</u>.
- <u>Place a September 11th banner</u> on your website or blog.
- September 11th National Day of Service and Remembrance 10th Anniversary Challenge

CNCS is recognizing the 10th anniversary of 9/11 by <u>issuing a challenge to organizations</u> to bring Americans together in the same spirit of compassion, unity, and service as so many have after the attacks. For detailed information, visit Challenge.gov.

A Collaborative Effort

CNCS works closely with organizations across the country to make the September 11th National Day of Service and Remembrance an opportunity for Americans of all backgrounds to come together in a spirit of unity and compassion to honor our heroes. I Will: the 9/11Tribute Movement.

Together, MyGoodDeed and HandsOn Network are leading a coalition of organizations working to organize one of the single largest days of charitable service in U.S. history.

<u>Stop and Remember</u> to mark the 10th Anniversary of the September 11 attacks, the U.S. Senate unanimously passed a resolution calling on all Americans to participate in a Moment of Remembrance at 1:00 PM EDT on September 11, 2011.

